

## SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT JULY 14, 2011

**Special Meeting** 

A community meeting of the Common Council of the City of Middletown was held in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building on Thursday, July 14, 2011 at 7 p.m.

**Present** 

Mayor Sebastian N. Giuliano, Council Members Thomas J. Serra, Philip J. Pessina, Joseph E. Bibisi, Robert P. Santangelo, Hope P. Kasper, Grady L. Faulkner, Jr., Deborah A. Kleckowski, David Bauer, and Daniel Drew; and Corporation Counsel William Howard; Sergeant-at-Arms Captain Howard, and Council Clerk Marie O. Norwood.

Absent

Council Members Ronald P. Klattenberg, Gerald E. Daley, and James B. Streeto.

**Also Present** 

Three members of the public

**Meeting Called to Order** 

The Mayor calls the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and leads the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Call of Meeting Read** 

The Call of Meeting was read and accepted. Mayor Giuliano declares the Call a Legal Call and the Meeting a Legal Meeting.

**Public Comment Opens** 

The Acting Chair opens public comment on items under the jurisdiction of the Common Council at 7:02 p.m. The Chair states we will hold another meeting after this one for the bond for the locker rooms and if you wish to speak on that wait for the next meeting. However, if you wish to speak on a subject that has not appeared on an agenda of a council meeting or if you wish to address an issue that falls within the jurisdiction of the Council, you can come forward at this time

Sal Caracoglia comes forward. He states four months ago he requested through the Police Chief an internal investigation of a police officer who lied under oath. He has called them for weeks and weeks and could not contact the officer and ask the status of the investigation. He is here to invoke Section 3 and 8 of the Charter which actually calls the Common Council to investigate any a department office or agency of the City. He is requesting a special investigation of the Council and he has seen many times the Police Department is split. One is for the Chief and the other half for the Serra pick.

The Chair asks if there was a formal complaint done in writing under oath. Mr. Caracoglia responds yes, and the Chief signed the date. What happens is for example something happened at Middletown High School and the person or officer gets engaged in doing the investigation and he does not report to the Police Department what is going on and then he gets promoted and we have seen him promoted for Captain and there are two more officers doing the same thing.

Noted for the Record

Corporation Counsel Howard takes his seat at 7:06 p.m.

Mr. Caracoglia states two officers engaged in my problem and the problem is this officer lied under oath and everyone else lied. Two years ago Mr. Caracoglia states he was threatened by a mafia boss and he threatened me that I would be found in a pool of blood because I was protesting against a Councilman here in the chamber. I have submitted a report as to what has transpired to me. When I do something, I get arrested and even if I donit do something, I get the blame. When these people do something to me, I donit want them arrested. This report stopped the threatening remarks from the mafia boss. He did not look for an arrest. The harassment continued from these two Councilmen and they will frame me.

Point of Order

Councilman Drew states this is out of our territory of jurisdiction. Mr. Caracoglia states I am making a request. Councilman Drew replies stay to the request. Mr. Caracoglia begins arguing with Councilman Drew. The Chair states get back to Section 8. Mr. Caracoglia states according to what he presented to the Court he was approached by Joe Imme that he should stop protesting against the Serra and that it was bad for Tom Serra and the Italian Society. Joe states he was told he would get a job. In October, Mr. Imme told him to stop protesting. The Chair asks how that is an investigation of the police. Mr. Caracoglia responds it is. He reads his statement further. The Chair states we can't do anything about what Mr. Imme says or doesn't say. Mr. Caracoglia states I have an hour. The Chair states it is ten minutes. Mr. Caracoglia states it is an hour. The Chair responds it is ten minutes. The Chair states I don't want to hear hearsay comments. Mr. Caracoglia continues, I received threats from the mafia boss and Mr. Imme and it came to the point where Mr. Santangelo was involved in trying to remove me from the Italian Society and on October 20, he came in this parking lot and asked

an individual. . . The Chair states I want to hear about the police.

**Point of Order** 

Councilman Pessina states this is information that needs to go into an investigation to build the case of threatening. Take the information to the Chief and let the Chief do his job. Mr. Caracoglia states on November 6, he was protesting against the Democrats and Mrs. Santangelo came. . . The Chair states you are giving us facts that need to be investigated. You are not telling me what they did or did not do; it doesn't matter when it occurred. You are asking the Council to invoke an investigation and what is it they didn't do or did do that they should not have done. Mr. Caracoglia states the two reports by the two officers will not come out because they have the silence code and I have the truth and gave them the proof that these three people have lied. Councilman Pessina states we canit do anything about this. Mr. Caracoglia states I have the proof right here which is what I wrote in an FYI letter to the Downtown Business District was the agency that owned the kiosks all over the City and she told me in the trial that someone said they removed the flyers from the kiosks because they were members of the Chamber. He went to the Downtown Business and got a letter that they employ the person to remove items from the kiosks. The Chair asks what the police did or did not do. Mr. Caracoglia states what happened was the first incident, they created a nonexistent incident, the cop lady and another person lied to frame me up. I was framed up for my job and I will no longer be framed up. The Chair states swear out an oath so it can be investigated. Mr. Caracoglia states he wrote a letter for a 911 call and it came from this lady at 12:26 and it was identified as the lady who called the cops and when it came to the call she lied and said she never called and my proof is I wrote an FOI letter to Dispatch and wanted to have the credential if she did make a phone call. They identified this lady made the call and requested the officer. She is a liar. The Chair asks if it was brought to the attention of the court and what did they do. Mr. Caracoglia states he was found guilty on the second incident and they would not take my word and took the testimony of the officer. The Chair responds we are not the Court of Appeals. Mr. Caracoglia states he is in appeal and he will prove it and the District Attorney in Rocky Hill is trying to remove the evidence. This lady made the call when she denied it and the officer says I was arrested at 12:30 and how could he charge me with disorderly conduct and that is the frame up and he came 20 minutes later. He says you slapped Mrs. Santangelois hands. When he asked the officer what hand he used the officer said he didn't

**Point of Order** 

Councilman Drew states this is not a trial. The Chair states the Court heard what you said and what the witnesses said what do you want us to do. Mr. Caracoglia states I don't want no cover up. The Chair states it is a decision of the Court binding on us until it is overturned. Mr. Caracoglia states he hopes it will be overturned. The Chair states there was a trial that just occurred and we all disagree with the results, what do you want us to do about it. Mr. Caracoglia wants an investigation under Section 8. The Chair states you are asking us to base an investigation on a Court case and the Council will not retry this case. Mr. Caracoglia states somehow they want to eliminate the actual evidence. The prosecutor used false evidence. The Chair states the prosecutor is a State official and you have not brought forward anything the Council can do anything about. Mr. Caracoglia states one person is being oppressed and how can he be framed up on false evidence.

The Chair states you are past minutes and we have a kind of understanding of what you want.

The Chair asks if there are other members of the public wishing to speak on any matters under the jurisdiction of the Council.

Deb Petruzello comes forward to address the locker rooms. The Chair states we have not got there yet; it is the next meeting.

**Public Comment Closes** 

The Chair asks if there are other members wishing to speak. He closes the public hearing at 7:22 p.m.

**Motion to Adjourn** 

Councilman Bauer moves to adjourn and is seconded by Councilman Serra. The vote is called and it is unanimous with nine aye votes to adjourn. The Chair adjourns the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

ATTEST:

MARIE O. NORWOOD Common Council Clerk